Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, Kerala and Maharashtra at an estimated cost of Rs. 299.92 crore. Central Share to tune of Rs. 179.73 crore has been released to the States so far. These projects cover 1098 water bodies with total original culturable command area of 1.72 lakh hectares. No ponds/reservoirs in the NCT of Delhi are covered under the Pilot Scheme.

River inter-linking Scheme

852. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the actual status of ambitious 'river inter-linking' scheme in the country particularly, Chambal-Kali sindh-Parvati Project;

(b) whether this scheme is lagging behind the target;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by Government to accelerate the above scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has prepared Feasibility Report of 16 links out of 30 identified links under the National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins/areas.

A Group headed by Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) consisting of other officers of CWC, NWDA and Secretaries of Irrigation/Water Resources Department from concerned States has been constituted in June, 2002 to discuss with the States the issues for arriving at a consensus regarding sharing of surplus water and preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs). Five peninsular links have been identified as priority links for consensus building between the concerned States. The Group has held nine meetings on these links. The DPR for one priority link *viz.* Ken-Betwa has been taken up by NWDA after signing of a tripartite agreement between the Government of India and concerned States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 25.08.2005. The States of MP and Rajasthan have also agreed in principle for the preparation of DPR of another priority link *viz.* Parbati-Kalisindhi-Chambal link.

The implementation of inter basin water transfer proposals depends on the consensus and cooperation of the concerned States.

Accelerated Irrigation Project in Rajasthan

853. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of grants given to Rajasthan for irrigation projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, project-wise and the achievement thereto, project-wise;

(b) whether some requests from State Government are pending with Centre; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the action taken for the speedy disposal of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) So far, 10 irrigation projects of Rajasthan have received Central Assistance under AIBP amounting to Rs. 1695.4532 crore as Loan and Grants. The